(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) to (c) The Union Government issued a number of advisories to the Government of Gujarat after Godhra incident and assisted them in a variety of ways to restore normalcy in the State. Some of these measures include sending of Central Para-Military Forces, deployment of Army, announcement of relief and rehabilitation Package of Rs. 150 crores by the Prime Minister and financial assistance under different centrally sponsored schemes.

Crimes in Delhi

829. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether crime against women, with cases of sexual harassment has increased considerably especially in metropolitan cities;

(b) whether it is a fact that Delhi has become the crime capital of the country also; and

(c) the remedial measures taken to make Delhi a safe city and reduce the murders, rapes, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) Annexure showing incidence of sexual harassment and total crime committed against women during 1998-2000 in all States/UTs and in four Metropolitan cities is enclosed. [*See* Appendix 197 Annexure No. 8]. Analysis of the statement shows that the cases of sexual harassment increased by 10% in 1999 over 1998 and by 24.5% in 2000 over 1999 in the country. Among the Metropolitan cities, Mumbai recorded an increase of 63.6% in 1999 over 1998 and 263.9% in 2000 over 1999 while Kolkata registered an increase of 27.3% in 1999 over 1998 and 64.3% in 2000 over 1999. However, Delhi recorded a decrease of 18.2.% in 1999 over 1998 and 12.7% in 2000 over 1999. Chennai recorded 49 cases of sexual harassment in 2000 against zero in 1999 and 1998.

(b) Among the 23 major cities, of the country for which data is compiled, Delhi rank 7th in total IPC crimes after Indore, Bhopal, Jaipur, Bangalore, Nagpur and Patna. However, its rate of crime per lakh of population is higher than the other Metropolitan cities in the country *i.e.* Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai.

(c) In order to check rape and crime against women, Delhi police is conducting gender sensitization courses in Units and Districts. A central 'crime against women cell' has been set up under Senior Police Officer of the Rank of Addl. Commissioner of Police and similar cells have been set up at the district level. A sizable number of women staff has been posted in these cells and are briefed regularly to take prompt and effective action. Extra staff has been deployed at the Girls/Women institutions to keep watch on suspicious persons and to give sense of security to the women. A women help line is functioning which helps them in emotional distress.

Further, emphasis is being laid on checking the gangs and criminals active in Delhi and all Police Districts are targeting individual gangs and desperate criminals. A special cell under crime branch targets terrorists and subversive activities and acts of extortion and gang activities with inter-state linkages. Vigorous patrolling and surveillance has been mounted to instill confidence amongst general public and fear among the criminals. Police presence has been ensured at sensitive points. Police Stations with high crime rate have been identified and extra man power/motorcycle patrol have been provided. A series of preventive measures aimed at neutralizing active criminals have been initiated in a concerted manner. More than 300 dispirited criminals having potential to strike have been identified and surveillance is being organized on their activities.

Re-Activation of Rape Crises Intervention Centres

†830. SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item under the caption, "Rape Intervention Centres to be put back on Track", published at page number 3 of the 'Hindustan Times' dated 17th October, 2002;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether Government will re-activate Rape Crises Intervention Centres (RCIC) in view of the rapidly increasing incidents of rapes in Delhi;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) action taken by Government to save the rape victims from police harassment?

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.